

84TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

**H. R. 7536**

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

To amend the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, so as to require that certain vessels carrying passengers for hire be fitted with radiotelephone installations.

6 "PART III—RADIO INSTALLATIONS ON VESSELS CARRY-  
7 ING PASSENGERS FOR HIRE

# I

1 open sea or any tidewater within the jurisdiction of the  
2 United States adjacent or contiguous to the open sea, unless  
3 such vessel is equipped with an efficient radiotelephone  
4 installation in operating condition.

5 "SEC. 382. The provisions of this part shall not apply  
6 to—

7 "(1) vessels which are equipped with a radio in-  
8 stallation in accordance with the provisions of part II of  
9 title III of this Act, or in accordance with the radio  
10 requirements of the Safety Convention; and

11 "(2) vessels of the United States belonging to and  
12 operated by the Government, except a vessel of the  
13 United States Maritime Administration, the Inland and  
14 Coastwise Waterways Service, or the Panama Railroad  
15 Company.

16 "SEC. 383. The Commission shall exempt from the pro-  
17 visions of this part any vessel, or class of vessels, in the case  
18 of which the route or conditions of the voyage, or other con-  
19 ditions or circumstances, are such as to render a radio in-  
20 stallation unreasonable, unnecessary, or ineffective, for the  
21 purposes of this Act.

22 "SEC. 384. The Commission shall have authority with  
23 respect to any vessel subject to this part—

24 "(1) to specify operating and technical conditions  
25 and characteristics including frequencies, emissions,

1 power, communication capability and range, of instal-  
2 lations required by reason of this part;

3 “(2) to approve the details as to the location and  
4 manner of installation of the equipment required by this  
5 part or of equipment necessitated by reason of the pur-  
6 poses and requirements of this part;

7 “(3) to approve installations, apparatus and spare  
8 parts necessary to comply with the purposes and require-  
9 ments of this part;

10 “(4) to prescribe such additional equipment as may  
11 be determined to be necessary to supplement that speci-  
12 fied herein for the proper functioning of the radio in-  
13 stallation installed in accordance with this part or for  
14 the proper conduct of radio communication in time of  
15 emergency or distress.

16 “SEC. 385. The Commission shall make such inspections  
17 as may be necessary to insure compliance with the require-  
18 ments of this part.

19 “SEC. 386. The following forfeitures shall apply to this  
20 part in addition to penalties and forfeitures provided by title  
21 V of this Act:

22 “(a) Any vessel of the United States that is navigated  
23 in violation of the provisions of this part or of the rules and  
24 regulations of the Commission made in pursuance thereof  
25 shall forfeit to the United States the sum of \$500 recover-

1 able by way of suit or libel. Each day during which such  
2 navigation occurs shall constitute a separate offense.

3 “(b) Every willful failure on the part of the master of  
4 a vessel of the United States to enforce or to comply with  
5 the provisions of this part or the rules and regulations of  
6 the Commission made in pursuance thereof shall cause him to  
7 forfeit to the United States the sum of \$100.”

8 SEC. 2. Section 504 (b) of the Communications Act of  
9 1934, as amended, is amended by deleting “part II of title  
10 III and section 507”, and inserting in lieu thereof “parts II  
11 and III of title III and section 507”.

12 SEC. 3. Section 3 (y) (2) is amended by deleting “part  
13 II of title III” and inserting in lieu thereof “parts II and III  
14 of title III”.

15 SEC. 4. The amendments made herein shall take effect  
16 June 1, 1956.

Passed the House of Representatives July 2, 1956.

Attest:

RALPH R. ROBERTS,

*Clerk.*

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## AN ACT

To amend the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, so as to require that certain vessels carrying passengers for hire be fitted with radiotelephone installations.

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1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*  
3       That title III of the Communications Act of 1934, as  
4       amended, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof  
5       the following new part:

6       “PART III—RADIO INSTALLATIONS ON VESSELS CARRY-  
7                                   ING PASSENGERS FOR HIRE

8       “SEC. 381. Except as provided in section 382, it shall  
9       be unlawful for any vessel of the United States, transporting  
10      any passenger or passengers for hire, to be navigated in the

1 open sea or any tidewater within the jurisdiction of the  
2 United States adjacent or contiguous to the open sea, unless  
3 such vessel is equipped with an efficient radiotelephone  
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